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MINNESOTA
PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION
LIBRARY NOTES AND NEWS

VOLUME 3. No. 11.

ST. PAUL, SEPTEMBER, 1912.

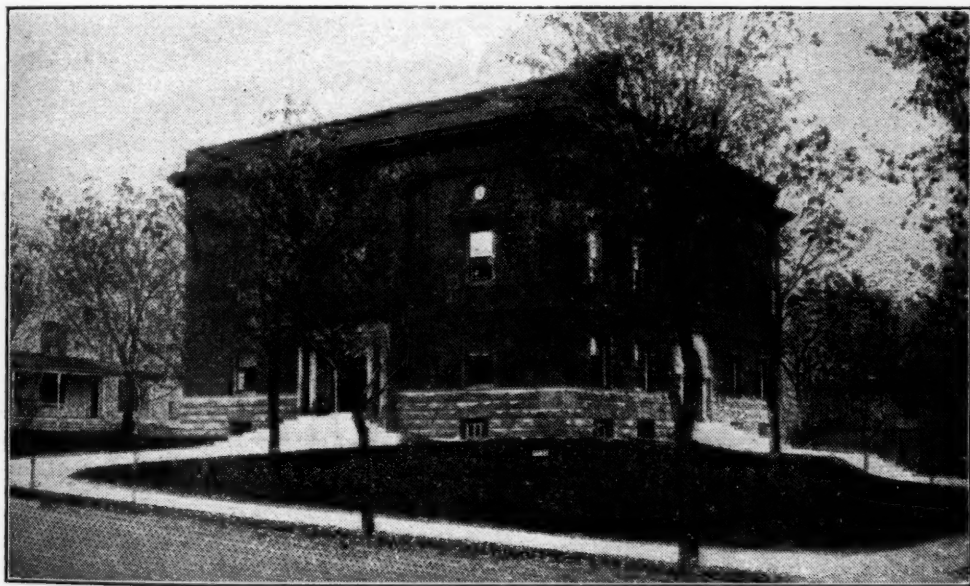
QUARTERLY.

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MARGARET J. EVANS, Northfield, *Chairman*.
GRATIA A. COUNTRYMAN, Minneapolis.
GEORGE E. VINCENT, Minneapolis.
C. G. SCHULZ, St. Paul.
WARREN UPHAM, St. Paul.

CLARA F. BALDWIN, *Secretary*.
MIRIAM E. CAREY, *Organizer*.
HELEN J. STEARNS, *Librarian*.
MARY P. PRINGLE, *Assistant Librarian*.
MARTHA WILSON, *Library Visitor*.

Minnesota Library
Association
Twentieth Annual Meeting
FARIBAULT
October 2-4, 1912



PUBLIC LIBRARY AND CITY HALL, FARIBAULT, MINN.

IMPORTANT. All who expect to attend should write at once to Miss Sarah E. Le Crone
Public Library, Faribault, Minn., to secure reservation of rooms.

PROGRAM.

All sessions will be held in the Guild House.

Wednesday October 2.

- 2:30 p. m. Business meeting—Reports, etc.
- 3:00 p. m. Trustees' section.
Limitations of the \$1,000-a-year library—Perrie Jones, Wabasha and others.
Possibilities of the \$1,000-a-year library.
Grosset & Dunlap versus re-binding—Isabel Kay, St. Paul.
Registration—the best method of keeping it up to date.
Library legislation—necessary changes in the law—Clara F. Baldwin, Secretary, Public Library Commission.
- 8:00 p. m. Addresses of Welcome—Mayor Hon. Alson Blodgett, Jr., for the City; Mrs. E. H. Loyhed for the Club Women; Judge T. S. Buckham, for the Library Board.
Response—Margaret Palmer, President of the M. L. A.
Music—Mrs. Weyerhauser.
Address—The Advertisment of Ideas—Dr. Arthur E. Bostwick, Librarian, St. Louis Public Library.
Informal reception.

Thursday, October 3.

- 9:30 a. m. General topic—Library Extension in Minnesota.
County extension: Steele, Martha Chapin; Washington, Clara Conway; Meeker, Mrs. Lamb; Itasca, Mrs. Huntley; Stevens, Agnes Torpey; Lake, Lilly Borresen; Olmsted,
Libraries in state institutions: School for the Blind, Ruth Burgess; State Public School, Gladys Chute; Home School for Girls, Vera E. Carson; State Training School, Gertrude Loehl; School for the Feeble Minded, Margaret McLean; School for the Deaf, Louis C. Tuck.
School libraries: County libraries and rural school libraries, Dr. J. W. Harris, Morris.
Suggested legislation to extend work of county libraries to rural schools, Martha Wilson, Supervisor of school libraries, St. Paul.
The school library as a public library, Alberta Ackerman, Cannon Falls.
- 2:00 p. m. General topic: The People's University—the Reference Room.
The relation of book selection to reference work, Amy Lewis, Fergus Falls.
The catalog as a reference tool,—Harriet Howe, Minneapolis.
Reference work with rural districts—Mary Pringle, St. Paul.
Municipal reference work—Josephine Schain, Minneapolis.
Value of special libraries:
Tax Commission—Louise Evans.
Board of Public Visitors—Jessie Rhodes.
State Historical Library: Genealogical collection—Mrs. Dunlap.
Publications—Emma Hawley.
Reference work and public documents—Dr. J. J. Dow, Faribault.
- 4:00 p. m. Seeing Faribault. Auto ride about the city and lakes.
- 7:30 p. m. Dinner.
Music—Mrs. Weyerhauser.
The Library in the New Educational Movement—Supt. John Munroe, Faribault.
Address—Mrs. E. H. Loyhed, Pres. Minn. Federation of Women's Clubs.
Some Compensations of Book Skimming—Miss Elva L. Bascom, Editor, A. L. A. Book-list.
Music—Mrs. Weyerhauser.
The Librarian as a Teacher—Dr. L. A. Weigle, Northfield.

Friday, October 4.

- 9:30 a. m. Business meeting.
- 10:00 a. m. Visits to various institutions.

In presenting this program to the library workers of the state, the president of the association and her colleagues congratulate themselves because of the number of interesting people who have agreed to take part in the exercises.

Dr. Bostwick, the representative of the American Library Association at the M. L. A., is widely known as an executive of unusual ability. He is author of the American Public Library and other works on library administration and is joint editor of *Champlin—Young folks cyclopedia of games and sports*, contributor to *Cyclopedia of American biography*, *Standard dictionary*, and *Appleton's annual cyclopedia*. As librarian of the magnificent new public library at St. Louis, Dr. Bostwick holds a position of great influence in the Middle West.

Dr. Weigle of Carleton College is always welcome because of his wide knowledge and brilliant delivery.

Supt. Munroe, of Faribault, has "made a name for himself" in the Agricultural High School at Cokato as an exponent of the new agricultural education.

Miss Bascom is the editor of the A. L. A. Booklist—that modest visitor that wields such a powerful influence over book selection.

Other notable speakers from among our own rank and file are coming prepared to tell all about how they have done it, and there is every prospect that the 1912 meeting will be worth while.

The Faribault people are extending the hospitality of their homes and planning to show us the many attractions and interesting features of the city and its institutions. It only remains for the M. L. A. to make this 20th meeting a notable one by rallying its members 100 strong.

Hotels and Rooms. The Brunswick Hotel has made a rate of \$2.25 and \$2.50 per day, and the Commercial \$1.50 per day. It is expected, however, that rooms will be obtained in private houses for all delegates, and meals will be furnished at the rate of 25 cents each for breakfast and supper and 50 cents for dinner. All reservations should be made through Miss LeCrone, who desires to know as soon as possible how many to provide for.

Railroads. Faribault is easily reached from all parts of Southern Minnesota by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, Chicago

Rock Island & Pacific and Chicago Great Western Railways. The most convenient train from the Twin Cities is that leaving Minneapolis at 8:30 A. M., St. Paul at 9:10 A. M. and reaching Faribault at 11:05 A. M.

SUMMER SCHOOL FOR LIBRARY TRAINING.

The Summer School for 1912 was held at the State University, June 17 to July 26, with a registration of 23 students, including 6 librarians of small libraries, 5 school and college librarians and 12 library assistants representing four states outside of Minnesota.

The usual elementary course was offered under the direction of the Secretary of the Commission. The instruction in technical subjects was given by Miss Carey, the Commission organizer and included 15 lessons in cataloging and 13 in order, shelf-list and classification, with practice work continuing throughout the course. Seven lectures on book-selection and buying were given by Miss Baldwin, outlining the general principles of book-selection and evaluation, with study of the standard lists and aids in book-selection. For practice work each student read and reviewed typical books in each class and prepared a list for purchase in her own library. This was followed by six lectures on reference work with practical problems, given by Miss Stearns. A feature of special interest this year was the course of eight lectures on children's work given by Miss Effie L. Power, Supervisor of children's work, St. Louis Public Library. The topics covered were Picture books and easy reading, Folk tales, Mythology and poetry, Fiction (2 lectures) Books of information, General administration of children's work and Story hours and reading clubs. Chief emphasis was laid on the study of children's books, based on the model library chosen from Kennedy's Suggestive list of children's books for a small library.

Lectures on administration, including relations with the library board, the business side of library work, relations with the public and library housekeeping, and on the library profession and library extension were given by the Director.

The special lectures this year were of unusual interest and variety, full of the inspiration which comes from people who know whereof they speak.

Miss Margaret Palmer, librarian at Hibbing, gave two talks during the first week, the first presenting a graphic picture of conditions in the Range towns, their wonderful resources and activities, with the educational opportunities offered by school and library, and in the second discussing the problem of providing books for foreign-born citizens, both in their own tongue and easy reading in English. She was followed by Miss Flora B. Roberts, librarian of Superior, Wis., whose paper on "Being a citizen" is printed in full in this number of the bulletin.

Mr. William R. Watson, formerly librarian at San Francisco, gave an account of California county libraries, explaining California conditions and showing the wonderful development of the library system which is promised under the operation of the new county library law.

Miss Margaret J. Evans of Northfield, Chairman of the Library Commission, is always a welcome visitor at the school, and her talk on Books of power furnished fresh inspiration for that cultivation of the highest powers, which can only be obtained from seeking the things of permanent value in literature and life.

Miss Martha Wilson, Supervisor of school libraries, gave a most interesting talk on School libraries in Minnesota, showing what the state is doing for their development and how public libraries can co-operate in making them more effective.

The closing address of the course was given by Prof. Emeritus Maria L. Sanford, of the University. With her usual vigor and earnestness Miss Sanford urged librarians to magnify their office, and make the most of the opportunities open to them; not only to secure the best books for their libraries, but aim to create a taste for good books. One can only gain appreciation for the best by reading the best and familiarity with the best is the only touchstone by which one can test what is good. At the close of her talk, Miss Sanford by special request read two poems from Kipling—The Pharaoh and the sergeant, and the Last rhyme of true Thomas.

The class also had the privilege of hearing President Vincent's chapel talk before the entire summer school. Although he was addressing teachers, his theme, the need of cultivating individuality in thought and conduct, applied with equal force to librarians.

A regular feature of the Summer School program is the visits to libraries, and other institutions of interest to library workers.

The visit to the Waldorf Bindery was preceded by a talk on library binding by Mr. Chidester, the manager of the bindery. This was greatly enjoyed by the class and the visit to the well equipped plant was found both profitable and interesting. One Saturday was devoted to St. Paul. Beginning at the Capitol the building itself was inspected, as well as the various libraries housed under its roof. The class then proceeded to the public library where they were received by Mrs. McCaine and members of her staff, and refreshed by cups of sherbet before visiting the various departments. The party then took luncheon at the Y. W. C. A. cafeteria, and afterwards inspected the fine new building from top to bottom.

The visit to the Minneapolis library, under the personal conduct of Miss Countryman, was a liberal education in library work. Of special interest was the collection of circulating pictures and post-cards which were exhibited by Miss Todd in the Art Department.

The Handicraft Guild, Walker Gallery and the H. W. Wilson Co. were also visited. The final excursion was made to Stillwater Saturday, July 20th. At the library the visitors were regaled with ice cream and cake, and were especially honored by the presence of Mrs. McPherson, the former librarian, who visited the library on that day for the first time since her illness. A part of the class visited the prison and after dinner at the hotel, return was made to Minneapolis, as the weather proved too uncertain to undertake the contemplated river trip to Hudson.

At the Delta Gamma Lodge, where the "library family" numbered from 12 to 16, there were two informal "parties" for the entire class and their friends, and the cool evenings occasioned many delightful "story-hours" around the fire-place. On July 4th a picnic at White Bear Lake came off successfully and the evening concerts at Lake Harriet and the unusually good list of theatre attractions were patronized by the more frivolous. The crowning treat of the last week was the "Saenger-fest" in St. Paul, when the instructors were the guests of the class.

Among the visitors at Miss Power's lec-

tures were a number of former students of the school: Miss Amy A. Lewis, Fergus Falls; Miss Elizabeth Connor, Albert Lea; Mrs. Alice A. Lamb, Litchfield; Miss Arabel Martin, Miss Edith Frost and Miss Honora McLachlan of the staff of the Minneapolis Public Library.

The following students were registered:

Elsie M. Barquist, Libn., South H. S. Library, Minneapolis.

Mrs. Jenny Lind Blanchard, Libn., P. L. Little Falls.

Mrs. Jessie M. Bollinger, Libn., P. L. Coleraine.

Alice Branham, Apprentice P. L. Minneapolis.

Mary E. Corson, Asst. Libn., P. L. Stillwater.

Margaret B. Fluke, Libn., P. L. Walker.

Elleh M. Giltinan, Apprentice P. L. Minneapolis.

Mrs. Shirley K. Hall-Quest, Libn., Westminster College, Fulton, Mo.

Edith J. Hubbart, Asst. Libn., South Dakota State College, Brookings, S. D.

Alma H. Ingersoll, Asst. Calumet & Hecla Mining Co. Lib., Calumet, Mich.

Martha Ingerson, Libn., New Boston Br. Library, Minneapolis.

Viola Lenning, Apprentice P. L. Minneapolis.

Gertrude E. Loehl, Libn., State Training School, Red Wing.

Effe E. Macmillan, Asst. P. L. Luverne.

Margaret A. Mahoney, Libn., Longfellow School, St. Paul.

Alice Matson, Asst. Libn., P. L. Albert Lea.

Mary R. Miles, Apprentice P. L. Minneapolis.

Zalia I. Morice, Asst. Tax Commission Lib. St. Paul.

Lydia S. Sasse, Libn., P. L. Sleepy Eye.

Stella M. Stebbins, Asst. P. L. Virginia.

Stella Telford, Libn., H. S. and P. L. Hastings.

May Wessberg, Libn., Br. L. Minneapolis.

Mrs. Nellie Wilson, Libn., P. L. Alliance, Neb.

BEING A CITIZEN.*

By FLORA B. ROBERTS, Librarian,
Superior, Wisconsin.

I am to talk to you this afternoon on "Being a Citizen." Let us begin in the good

* Given at the Summer School for Library Training, June 21, 1912.

old-fashioned way and define citizen. It is perhaps comforting to discover that the constitution of the United States does not maintain that the right to vote or hold office is the test of citizenship. A city or a town is a social as well as a political group, and to this group all members owe the "reciprocal obligation of allegiance on the one hand to protection on the other." Thus, when you accept a position in a library of a town, whether it be as chief or assistant, you become a member of the social group which constitutes the town to be served, you look to it for protection, and you owe to it your allegiance. You are a citizen of the community.

And now, being a librarian, how shall you best express that citizenship allegiance? This, I think, can be done in three ways. First, by knowing your community; second, by becoming a part of the community; third, by service to the political government of the community.

Again, in the good old fashioned way. Firstly, by knowing your community. The librarian must serve the whole community. The preacher serves the Presbyterians, the Methodists, the Episcopalians, or whatever his own choice may be. The physician builds up his practice with a certain limited following as his patients. The teacher works with the children of one locality. But the librarian must serve the **whole people**. Mr. Dudgeon of the Wisconsin Commission has set an ideal to be attained by all librarians—So build your library that you have at least one book for each person (in fitness, not in numbers), and then see to it that that person knows you have the books. You no doubt have had the experience of being consulted as to the choice of a book for John or Mary; but you could make no suggestions till you knew something of the tastes and interests of John or Mary. Even so you must know the community for whom you are to select books. And how shall this be done? Perhaps you have the advantage of having grown up among the people whom you are to serve. This is a great gain. Then the first thing to do is to organize your knowledge of your public, using much charity, sympathy and shrewdness in your organization. It is a woman's club town, though perhaps the clubs need a bit of electrification; it is a manufacturing or agricultural town; the missionary societies of the churches are

active, but possibly running in old ruts. And the young people—interested in athletics, outdoor life, drama clubs, or what not. What clubs and organizations are there? Who are the officers? Make an index of them. Is there a commercial club, and what service does it need? How about social service work; is it carried on through the churches, social centers, or not at all; what are the needs? And politics; what parties are prominent; are the socialists of the anarchistic or sane type? Who are the people and why; what can they do for the library and what can the library do for them? And the schools; what sorts of people are the superintendent, the principals, and the teachers? Examine the school course of study. Are there foreigners? Many transients? All these things you have known, but it is not sufficient merely to know. Odd facts about conditions are not of much value. They must be organized and made ready for use.

For those of you who are strangers in a strange land, the questions are the same, but with the complications of not having the answers ready. These you must learn. And I know of no better starting point than the local paper. Read it religiously, with note book and scissors at hand. It will tell you much, and raise many questions. Take these questions to someone in whom you have confidence, a member of your Board for instance. As you meet people, learn through conversations. "Stop, look, listen." And as you gain information, organize it as I have suggested.

Having organized your knowledge of your public, test your library to learn if it is ready to serve their needs. If you have a manufacturing town, what has the library to give those who wish to study the machinery, processes, scientific management, etc.? Or is it agricultural? Then have you up-to-date, reliable literature to help the ambitious farmer? When I had been in Superior only a few weeks I noticed in the paper that a poultry show was in the air. I tested our library by the poultry interest, and found it very weak. Our very next order contained ten dollars worth of poultry books. Then we had little cards printed with the list of these titles, and they were distributed at the poultry show which occurred a few weeks later. And today we have no more active group of books than those on the poultry industry. What are

the clubs studying? Have you anything to give them beside the encyclopaedia? Perhaps they have never been interested in the civic work other clubs have done; gather some material on the subject, then in conversation some day happen to mention it to a member. And the missionary societies; have you good books on missions, and new books of travel for them? Are you able to furnish data for the Commercial Club when it is wanted in a hurry? And so on, through the whole list. Test your library by every fact you find. If it does not stand the test, prove to your Board just what the weakness is, and only the very unusual Board will fail to help you mend the weak places if the funds they have at their disposal will permit. But if your Board be very unusual, you can do no greater service than to convert it.

Secondly, become a part of your community. Intelligent, human service cannot be given a community by one who at the same time stands aloof from it. To study your community and organize your knowledge of it as has been suggested, without becoming a part of it, would be a task like that of the scientist who studies ancient ruins, and from the facts gathered reconstructs the life of a prehistoric people. Our work is not automatic; a book read enters into the life of the reader, whether it be the heart life, the intellectual life, or the play life. The book itself has come from the author, pulsating with his life. We are the go-betweens, and in order to give the right book to the right person, we must be human, with keenness of mind, and much sympathy and charity of spirit. Were we to reduce our circulation of books to the automatic stamping of certain dates in certain places, and certain schemes of filing the cards, we might better invent a slot machine for the work; it would be cheaper. But we are dealing in human stuff, and we cannot truly know our public without becoming a part of that public. Therefore I say, join clubs, accept social invitations, pay calls, join a church if your religious convictions are in sympathy with church organizations, serve on committees, make addresses when asked—get asked sometimes. If you see a need for some certain work in the town, take the initiative yourself, even if it has nothing to do with the library. In this way we tried to stir up an anti-fly campaign in Superior this spring, and not with-

out some results. Have a life apart from that behind your library desk. Don't rely too much on the telephone for your business. Get out among people. This is a thing in which I must concede a woman is somewhat handicapped. But it is quite possible to enter the business world with such dignity, combined with frankness of manner, that all experiences are agreeable. Visits schools, factories, places of interest; you will not lose by it, even personally. A steam laundry becomes a place of interesting instruction.

"Let us never make our work inside the library so much our world that we can forget the great throbbing, wicked, beautiful, sordid, wonderful world outside its walls. We must touch elbows with it at every point to which we can carry the gospel of the book. Touch elbows with it at many points where we can see no direct professional advantage in the contact. Touch elbows with this world outside the walls at some points, with no other motive than pure fun, no other aim than to get away as wholly and as far as possible from everything bibliothetical. To a certain extent the Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde conception squares with wholesome, rational, broad living."

The last paragraph is quoted from an address, "Outside the Walls," made by Mr. J. I. Wyer to the Atlantic City meeting in 1911. You will find it in the 36th volume of the Library Journal, and I recommend that you all read it.

And thirdly, you may prove your citizenship allegiance by service to the political government of the community. By this I mean service to your various city officers. Much has been said of late about municipal reference libraries, or departments in the public libraries. But I think we are prone to consider this a work for the larger cities only. Yet every village and hamlet, as well as city, has its own problems to face, and it is not only the library duty, but the citizenship obligation of every librarian to be ready to assist the community to face its problems with intelligence. On the other hand, the work of collecting the material which goes largely into the make-up of the municipal reference library requires a great deal of time, much more than the ordinary purchase of books, and we should guard against a zeal in running down pamphlets, clippings, reports of investigations which is in danger of overshadowing the judgment

of the ultimate value of the material. It is necessary to be on the alert, keep in the advance of the public just a little, that we may be prepared for emergencies. However, there are subjects which are problems in one city, but never can be for another. Let me make a personal illustration. Superior is blessed with a fine sewerage system, carefully planned and well laid out in the early history of the city; and we have a water supply seldom equalled, or at least unexcelled. Now it would be the height of absurdity for us to make strenuous efforts to collect every scrap of printed information on water supplies and sewerage systems. On the other hand, we have no satisfactory way of disposing of the city refuse. Last fall, when we read in the minutes of the Common Council (we are careful never to miss reading these minutes) that the question of refuse disposal was up for discussion, and a committee on investigation had been appointed, we immediately looked up our resources. A copy of Morse, Collection and disposal of municipal waste, was ordered post haste; reports of other investigations were sent for; then a list of all we had or hoped to have within the coming week was made, and copies mailed to the members of the new committee, also printed in the paper. It may interest you to know that to this day not one person has read a bit of the material then collected. But we were not discouraged; it is still an open question in the city, and only the other day we mailed copies of the list to our new Commission Council.

So we must use judgment in the choice of subjects on which we spend much time; and we should avoid doing work which has already been done by others. Watch published lists, be informed concerning the ways your State Library Commission is ready to help you. But let your city government know you are ready and able to assist them. When new officers are elected, write a note to them, placing the services of the library at their disposal. Not infrequently it will take many efforts, perhaps extending over a period of years to prove the value of the library to the actual workings of the city government. But we cannot afford to become discouraged. No librarian can prove her citizenship allegiance if she is faint-hearted or carries a chip on her shoulder.

In a brief but most pithy article in the

May, 1912, number of Public Libraries, called "How may the Public Library help the City Government" (another article which I heartily commend to your reading), Mr. William H. Allen says: "Interest in government increases interest in every other library service, because all other human activities reflect themselves somewhere, some way, in things done, or in things not yet done which ought to be done, by government."

I believe all old-fashioned sermons ended in exhortations. So I exhort you. Be alive, be human. Be not so bound down by commas and dashes, full names and dates, your beautiful accession record, your dating stamps, and the discipline of the reading room, that you forget that they are but a means to an end. You believe in the gospel of the book—if you do not, seek some other profession immediately—then read your books, study your public, and endeavor to give to each the book he needs. All things should be done decently and in order; books are quite inanimate, the public is most miscellaneous. Therefore we must have our records, and our schemes for organization. These things I cannot undervalue. But do not make of them a little god before whom you bow down and worship. Go out joyously among your people, be one of them in such manner that they shall become conscious of the public library in their midst, and shall see that it is good. And thus shall you win the rewards of your citizenship.

THE OTTAWA CONFERENCE.

(By our Special Correspondent, with apologies to the Library Journal.)

The 34th annual meeting of the American Library Association was held at Ottawa, Canada, June 26 to July 2, 1912. It brought together close to 750 members, of whom a sixth were from Canada, while the five states of New York, Illinois, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Ohio contributed one-half of the entire attendance.

The general aim of the conference, as presented by President Elmendorf, was to impress the importance of the librarian, and particularly of the library assistant in dealing with the public as individuals rather than as a body.

Publicity for libraries was the other topic which received much general attention, and the suggestions went so far as to include

paid advertising in the daily press and a salaried "publicity man" for the A. L. A.

One of the most interesting features of the Ottawa meeting was the large attendance of trustees, particularly from Canada. These men and women were there by way of doing their duty as public servants and officials, and by their interest and serious attention to the business of the meeting, they set a fine example to the Americans. Incidentally their behavior somewhat vividly brought to mind the lack of interest felt by many library trustees.

Canadian hospitality proved adequate and delightful in the highest degree. The Canadians are great hosts. They know how to make people comfortable and also "show them a good time." Probably the most enjoyable "off-day" of the conference was the garden party at the Central Experimental Farm. The invitations to this function were issued by the Canadian government and were handsome enough to be framed. This festivity occasioned much perturbation in advance on account of the impossibility of packing garden-party hats in suit cases, but judging from the gala appearance of the assembly, all difficulties had been surmounted, for the hats were much in evidence. The garden party was quite English—though it transpired that the Canadians do not consider such statements complimentary. They do not like to be told that they are "more English than the English," though we all know that has been considered their highest aspiration. Probably we got it out of some American novel. At any rate, one American at the conference was well snubbed by a Canadian because she called things "so English," by way of being complimentary.

The garden party broke up at six, and that evening the meetings were curtailed in order that all might enjoy the dance in the main Parliament Building.

Dominion Day, July 1, the national day of Canada, provided a special Canada program. Sir Wilfred Laurier, recently retired Premier of Canada, was the principal speaker, and his appearance was greeted with enthusiasm. At the close of this session, Mrs. Elmendorf, the president of the A. L. A. was presented with a maple-wood gavel by Sir Wilfrid Laurier on behalf of the Canadian librarians, which was accepted in a few graceful remarks expressing the hope that this weapon might be the only one raised to

enforce order between the United States and our Canadian friends.

Dr. George E. Vincent, President of the University of Minnesota, was the only speaker at the fifth general session. Many wondered how the official stenographer ever kept up with the marvelous speed of speech of Dr. Vincent, which, coupled with constant witticisms, kept the convention in the best of spirits. Dr. Vincent said that the stereopticon slides typified the mental images controlling our lives and it should be the endeavor to speak a picture into a person's mind without letting him realize the process by which it got there. Individuality threw out the bad slides. And the librarian's duty was to put in the minds of the people better pictures, taking out those that are misleading and unworthy. The library was full of potential mental pictures. Librarians are keepers of these films, which are to be used to stimulate, to make life more rich in joy and intelligent appreciation.

The post-conference trip down the St. Lawrence and up the Saguenay rivers with stops at Montreal and Quebec was unanimously voted an entire success.

The following Minnesotans were present at some part or all of the conference: Miss Patten, Minneapolis public library; Mr. Gerould, Miss Hyde and Miss Derickson, University of Minnesota library; Mr. Wilson, Minneapolis; Miss Palmer, Hibbing; Miss Borresen, Two Harbors and Miss Carey of the Library Commission.

EXHIBITS.

Through the courtesy of the Ridgley Calendar Co., Great Falls, Mont., the Commission has secured about 20 colored reproductions from paintings by Charles M. Russell, the cowboy artist of Montana. To these will be added a few characteristic pictures by Frederic Remington, and the whole collection will make a very interesting exhibit of Western ranch life. The pictures will be on exhibition at the Faribault meeting of the M. L. A. and will then be available to any library upon payment of transportation charges one way.

The circuits for other Commission exhibits are now being arranged, and libraries desiring to borrow any of these during the coming season are asked to make early application. The following is a list of collections, all of which are loaned for two weeks

on payment of transportation charges one way:

American landscape painters (24 carbon prints).

English historical pictures (12 colored prints).

Forestry in Minnesota and the United States (60 photographs).

Silk Culture (cabinet with illustrated chart).

U. S. Navy (24 colored prints of the old battleships).

Venice of today (40 sketches in color and black and white).

EVOLUTION OF A BEST SELLER.

Printed in February; called a masterpiece in March; 75,000 copies sold by April; styled a classic in May; 300,000 copies by July; immortalized in August; 400,000 copies in September; dead and forgotten by November.—Publisher and Retailer.

UNIVERSITY WEEKS.

The program for University Weeks was carried out according to schedule and proved a successful and popular means of extending the educational work of the state. The Library Commission was represented on Art and Literature Day throughout the course, and the library exhibit sent to each town consisted of various kinds of traveling libraries, maps of Minnesota showing the location of public and traveling libraries and posters illustrating the ways in which libraries are reaching the people and serving various needs, with post cards of library buildings.

During the first week at Windom, St. James, Fairmont, Jackson, Worthington and Luverne, Miss Baldwin spoke on The library and the community, emphasizing the importance of the library in its relation to community life and showing by the use of maps and posters how the state, with the aid of individual libraries, is meeting its library problem of bringing free books to all the people. Miss Wilson, State Supervisor of School Libraries, gave a talk on the Farmers' Day program on Reading for country communities, varying the topic to suit the audience and occasion.

The circuit for the second week included Owatonna, Rochester, Red Wing, Plainview, Grand Meadow and Waseca. At Owatonna, on Monday, June 10th, a library round table was held in connection with Art and Liter-

ature Day. There were 16 librarians and trustees present from Albert Lea, Austin, Faribault, Kasson and Owatonna. Miss Baldwin was the first speaker in the morning on the University Week program and at the close of her talk the round table session was held at the library. County and township extension was one of the chief topics for discussion. After dinner together at the hotel, the visiting librarians returned to the High School to hear Miss Wilson's talk on Children's reading, and later through the courtesy of citizens were given a delightful ride about the city and over to the State School to visit the newly furnished library there.

Miss Baldwin spoke at Red Wing the following day, while Miss Wilson visited Rochester, Plainview, Grand Meadow and Waseca, her subjects being The Library in the community and Children's reading. An exhibit of children's books and posters was used to illustrate the talks, and at Plainview library work was further emphasized by a story hour to which about thirty children came to hear the story of the Merchant of Venice, which was given by the University Dramatic Club the following evening.

During the third week, Miss Countryman gave the library talk at Coleraine and Cloquet, Miss Baldwin at Brainerd and Miss Wilson at Grand Rapids, Bemidji and Crookston.

TRAVELING LIBRARY NOTES.

Statistics for the circulation of each book in every traveling library are kept at the Library Commission office. This is the only means the traveling library department has of knowing which books are popular and which are unpopular. For the six months ending July 1st the traveling library of 50 volumes at Wabasha had the largest circulation—436. The library at Henderson was a close second with a circulation of 430. These figures should be more than equalled by many other towns, for after all this means that each volume was charged from eight to nine times only, during six months. The largest circulation for 25 volume libraries was at Crosby where the volumes of the traveling library circulated 249 times, and those of the juvenile library 221 times.

New traveling library stations have been opened at Kitichi, Spur, Birchdale, Silver

Lake, Princeton, Moorhead, R. F. D. No. 1, and a station reopened at Spicer.

The traveling library department has the following libraries and groups of foreign books ready for circulation Sept. 1:

50 vol. libraries.....	227	11,350 vols.
25 vol. libraries.....	132	3,300 "
Juvenile libraries.....	70	1,750 "
Foreign libraries.....	26	650 "
Foreign groups (6 vol.) (Finnish, French, German, Norwegian and Swedish languages)	137	822 "
Farmers' libraries.....	25	625 "
Teachers' libraries.....	5	125 "

New club libraries have been made on Belgium, Italian literature and Scandinavian literature. Seventy-one club libraries have already been sent out for use the coming year. Those clubs which have not ordered their libraries are urged to do so at once.

Libraries on the following subjects are still available:

American architecture and sculpture.
 Arts and crafts.
 Austria.
 Belgium.
 China.
 Drama—History.
 England—History, 1603—date.
 England—Travel.
 English art.
 English literature—Seventeenth century.
 English literature—Victorian age.
 English novel.
 French literature.
 Great Britain—Colonies.
 German literature.
 Greece—History.
 Greece—Travel.
 Greek art.
 India.
 Ireland and Wales.
 Italian cities.
 Italian literature.
 Italian sculpture.
 Japan.
 Opera.
 Scandinavian literature.
 Scotland.
 Shakespeare.
 U. S. History—Survey.
 U. S. History—Colonial period.
 U. S. History—Revolution.
 U. S. History—Civil war.
 U. S. History—Civil war to present.

U. S. Travel—Northwest and Alaska.

U. S. Travel—South.

Woman.

Farmers' libraries, containing twenty-five books on agricultural subjects and twenty-five books of general interest will be sent on request to Agricultural high schools and rural communities.

At the request of the American Medical Association the traveling library department will establish traveling libraries, bearing on the subject of hygiene and sanitation, in rural districts and rest rooms of towns which have been recommended as stations by the State Chairman of the Committee for Public Health Education among Women. These libraries will contain books on eugenics, child hygiene, personal hygiene, prevention and cure of nervous prostration, tuberculosis, etc.

Books too worn for further circulation and magazines have been sent to lumber camps and to Fort Snelling for use of the troops on the transport ships. H. J. S.

SCHOOL LIBRARY NOTES.

On June 11th a meeting of the county superintendents at the University Farm was attended by Miss Wilson, State Supervisor of School Libraries, and a report given on the work which had been done during the winter with rural school libraries and teachers. The report was received with interest and a resolution was passed endorsing the school library work of the department.

During the week of June 17th, Grand Rapids, Bemidji and Crookston were visited on University Week circuit and a talk given before the Bemidji summer school. Monday, June 29th was spent at Northwestern School of Agriculture, Crookston, for talk and conference with the teachers on school libraries. On June 25th and 26th similar work was given at the West Central School of Agriculture at Morris and to each of these schools a school library of over one hundred volumes was loaned for the use of the teachers during the summer session. The Morris library board gave an informal reception on the evening of June 26th for Miss Wilson and a very delightful evening was spent. The Morris library board is showing a great interest in aid to rural school libraries and the plans being tried out in Stevens county will be watched with interest by the other county libraries of the state.

June 27th and 28th were spent at the summer school at Glenwood and three talks given on Book selection for rural school libraries, their care and management. A similar series of talks was given at Aitkin, Brainerd, Detroit, Thief River Falls and Badger. By means of these talks at summer schools a large number of teachers were reached and many lists and pamphlets distributed.

Two talks were given at the Farm School to the consolidated school principals on books for their libraries and communities. Every consolidated school is required to have a library room and it is hoped that the consolidated school libraries may become live library centers for the community. A special list of books for school libraries open to the public has been prepared and lists of industrial books, agriculture, manual training and domestic science suitable for such schools.

Miss Effie L. Power, Supervisor of Children's Work, St. Louis Public Library, gave three talks to the teachers at the Farm School on Purpose and use of a school library; Selection of books and Story telling.

Two recent library appointments in Minnesota will have special influence on the school library work. Miss Dorothy Hurlbert, who succeeds Miss Jessie McKenzie as librarian at Moorhead Normal, will give a course in library work to the students. The position of librarian at the St. Cloud Normal will be separated from that of secretary, Miss Cambell retains the position of secretary and the librarian has not yet been appointed.

Hereafter it will be necessary for every teacher in the common schools of the state to be a member of the State Teachers' Reading Circle and pursue the work regularly. The following list of books chosen for 1912-13 should be in every public library for the use of the teachers:

1st year books.

Salisbury—School management.	Row,
Peterson	\$1.00
Adler—Moral instruction of children.	
Appleton	1.00

2nd year books.

Colgrove—The teacher and the school.	
Scribner	1.00
Cox—Literature in the common schools.	
Little90

3rd year books.

Ellwood—Sociology and modern social problems. Amer. Bk..... 1.00
Davenport—Education for efficiency.

Heath 1.00

N. E. A. Miss Wilson attended the meetings of the library section of the N. E. A. in Chicago, July 11-12. The meeting July 11th was held in Mandel Hall, University of Chicago, and the topics presented were very timely and suggestive. Dr. Bostwick of the St. Louis Public Library advocated teaching the use of the library in the schools in such a way as to show the students what the profession of librarianship offers as a calling. Dr. Bostwick also spoke at the general session the evening of July 10th. The vocational note struck by Dr. Bostwick was elaborated by Principal Jesse B. Davis of Grand Rapids, Mich., in an admirable presentation of the "Use of the high school library in vocational and moral training." Mr. Davis' talk was based on his outline "Vocational guidance" published in the Bulletin of the Grand Rapids (Mich.) Public Library, Oct., 1911. Some copies of this list are still available and may be obtained by application to the library. Mr. Davis gave a similar talk before the English section, but from the standpoint of the teacher. This paper is to be published in the English Journal for October (University of Chicago press) and it would be worth the while of any library to get a copy of this to use with the teachers. The Grand Rapids Library is now engaged upon a revision of the bibliography in the bulletin listed above and the New York Public Library is preparing a similar list.

Miss Mary Hall, of Brooklyn, gave a very complete and full report of High School libraries in the United States.

The U. S. Bureau of Education was represented by Mrs. P. P. Claxton, wife of the U. S. commissioner of education. Mrs. Claxton, who was formerly Miss Hannah Johnson, librarian of the Nashville (Tenn.) Public Library assured the librarians that the Bureau of Education was to give more attention to libraries in the future and expressed particular interest in the work with rural school libraries and rural school teachers.

The afternoon was spent in visiting the new Harper Memorial Library, University of Chicago press, School of Education library followed by a tea in Scammon gardens. The visitors were then taken in automobiles for

a tour of the South Park houses, where the wonderful recreational facilities were seen as well as the branch libraries. The Hiram Kelly branch was inspected and the trip ended at the Chicago Teachers' College where the librarian entertained the visitors.

The final session of the library section was held at the Chicago Public Library on the afternoon of July 12th. Interesting round table discussions were followed by Outline of course in children's literature by Miss Jessie Black, University of Chicago, and paper on Cultural reading in High Schools by Miss F. M. Hopkins, Detroit, followed by discussions and inspection of the fine exhibit of school library lists and outlines prepared by Miss Mary E. Hall.

—M. W.

INSTITUTION NOTES.

The last report of the School for Dependent Children at Owatonna before the summer vacation, was for 547 books which circulated among 125 readers. This is a veritable children's library, and the 262 picture books and 56 fairy tales and animal stories which were included in the circulation, show that the children are getting the right things from their library.

During the summer, the only institution libraries which have been kept open are those at the School for the Feeble-minded, the State Reformatory, and the State Prison. Every "library day" at the Faribault institution has found the children eagerly waiting to exchange their books. Miss MacLean, the librarian and principal of the school, states that the library is one of the greatest sources of pleasure to the children.

At the State Training School for Boys (Red Wing) the library will be in charge of Miss Loehl of Minneapolis, who is one of the staff of teachers connected with the institution. As Miss Loehl prepared herself especially for this work by taking the summer school course in library training, it is felt that the library will be in good hands. The work of classifying the 4,000 or more books in the school library is in progress, and later on subject and title catalogs will be made. There are several hundred "brand new" books waiting to be prepared for circulation, for which the matrons in charge of the cottages in which the boys live, are waiting impatiently, as they appreciate that books are a great help toward keeping the boys in the right frame of mind.

The library at the Home School for Girls

(Sauk Centre) is to be housed temporarily in the upper story of one of the new cottages. Ultimately, it will be kept in the school house. The accessioning and classifying of this library are finished and the subject and title catalogs are soon to be made. The librarian in charge is Miss Vera E. Carson, a graduate of Wellesley College. Having had long experience in this work with the girls, Miss Carson is admirably adapted to her position. —M. E. C.

PERSONAL.

Miss Anna M. Smith, librarian of the Agricultural College was married September 2nd to Dr. Horace Preston Hoskins of the Agricultural College faculty. She will be succeeded in the library, November 1st, by Miss Harriet Sewall of St. Anthony Park, a graduate of the Wisconsin Library School, who has had five years experience in the library of the Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Miss Lydia M. Poirier, formerly librarian at Duluth, has again taken up library work, and is assisting in the library of the University of California at Berkeley, and at the same time taking lectures at the University.

Miss Louise Fernald, who has been librarian at Rochester for five years, has resigned that position and will have charge of the library at Great Falls, Mont., during the coming year. During her term of service at Rochester, Miss Fernald has entirely reorganized the library, and its work has steadily increased, her crowning achievement being the inauguration of county extension a year ago.

Miss Dorothy Hurlbert, of Morrison, Ill., has taken the position of librarian at the Moorhead Normal School. Miss Hurlbert is a graduate of the Illinois Library School, and was for two years librarian at Hudson, Wis., and later librarian of one of the branches at Seattle, Wash.

Mrs. Florence Hicks has been appointed librarian at Alexandria to succeed Mr. W. J. B. Moses, resigned.

Miss Maud Davis has resigned her position as librarian at Long Prairie.

Miss Ruth Haven of Chatfield who was interested in organizing the library at that place, completed the one-year course at Western Reserve Library School, Cleveland, O., in June, and begins work in the North Side Branch Library, Minneapolis, in September.

NEWS OF MINNESOTA LIBRARIES.

(Items of news for this column are solicited from all libraries in the state. They should be sent to the Secretary of the Commission by the 15th of the month preceding each issue of the bulletin, which appears quarterly in March, June, September and December.)

Albert Lea. A low table and comfortable little chairs have been placed in the children's room and the children's books are now shelved around the walls of this room. A new table has been purchased for the general reading room, and one of the old tables has been placed at the back of the stack room for reference work.

Mr. C. L. Luce has presented to the library a complete file of the Daily Tribune.

Benson. At a joint meeting of the library board and city council, an admirable site for the library building was selected, provided the citizens would raise \$1,500 needed for its purchase, in addition to \$500 already in hand for the building fund. The citizens have responded generously and the necessary amount has been pledged. Kirby T. Snyder & Co. of Minneapolis, have been chosen as architects, the plans have been accepted and the work will be begun at once. The building will be located so that heat and light may be obtained from the central heating plant at a great saving in expense.

The lecture course for the coming season is of higher grade than ever before, including a lecture by President Vincent, and some fine musical numbers.

Blackduck. The library was reopened in August in new quarters, under the management of the Blackduck Library Co. which was organized by the Lincoln Study Club and the Girls' Club for the purpose of continuing the library already started by the Girls' Club. Cards may be obtained for 50 cents a year and the library is free to all school children. The library will be open on Saturday afternoon and Wednesday and Saturday evenings.

Caledonia. The reading room in the new city hall is open every day in the week. Monday, Wednesday and Friday in the afternoon and Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday in the evening, and has proved an attractive place to the young people.

Coleraine. The library board has adopted the plan of making monthly purchases of new books to the extent of at least \$10.

Duluth. The Carnegie branch at West Duluth has been completed and is now open to the public. The building is of concrete construction with exterior of brick and Bedford stone and tile roof. It is well arranged on the oblong, one-room plan, with an excellent lighting and heating system, and the furniture and finishing throughout is harmonious and durable.

Eveleth. The city has finally completed arrangements for the purchase of a site for a city park and library building. The plat of ground contains approximately two blocks near the center of town, and the library has been given 150 feet on one corner of the property. The library board is considering plans and hopes to begin work on the building this fall.

Hastings. The summary of receipts and expenditures of the library course of 1911-12 shows a balance of \$114.40 to the credit of the library fund.

Hibbing. The library grounds were greatly improved this summer by flower beds on either side of the walk, and some shrubbery set out in the lawns. The iron fence has been removed and will be replaced by a low spruce hedge. The work was done by the superintendent of parks.

Litchfield. The story hours last year proved so successful that arrangements have been made to have two devoted to Bible stories and one to "Königskinder," with the music given by one of the teachers.

Little Falls. Beginning September 1st, the library will be open every day in the week from 3 to 6 and 7 to 9. A gift of \$100 for books have been received from a citizen, who wishes to remain anonymous, and a gift of 40 volumes from Mrs. W. A. Butler on her departure from the city was much appreciated.

An additional source of revenue will be rent from the library basement which will be used during the morning for a Kindergarten and also for classes in music.

Mankato. The wooden flooring in the library building has been replaced by a concrete foundation over which the cork carpet is laid. The library was closed for about ten days during this work, and at the same time a thorough house cleaning was undertaken.

Minneapolis. A gift of \$125,000 has been made to the Minneapolis Public Library by

Andrew Carnegie, with which to erect four branch buildings. These will be located as follows: On Franklin and 17th Aves. S., to accommodate the present Franklin or South Side branch; on Central Ave. between 26th and 27th Aves. to house the New Boston branch; on Lyndale near 6th Ave. N. and on 4th Ave. S. and 6th St. near the South Central High School, which is just being erected.

Northfield. A valuable addition to the reference department is a recent purchase of 90 volumes of the Atlantic monthly, from 1857 to 1903.

Rochester. In spite of the scarlet fever epidemic which interfered seriously with the circulation of books more than 4,000 books have been loaned to county patrons since the extension work was begun. Miss Fernald addressed the students of the summer school, telling of the privileges offered by the Rochester library to the people of Olmsted county.

Mr. C. C. Willson, one of Rochester's pioneer citizens, has presented to the library his file of Olmsted county papers, maps and books which constitute a local history collection of great value.

Royalton. The library was formally opened on July 27th, with Mrs. E. A. Blackwood in charge as librarian. The library is open every Saturday afternoon and has been well patronized.

St. Paul. At the special session of the Legislature a bill was passed authorizing the city council of St. Paul to issue bonds to the amount of \$600,000 for the erection of the proposed library building, and the council has passed the necessary ordinance.

Sauk Center. A renting collection of late fiction has been started, for which the charge is 5c per week.

The G. A. R. and W. R. C. Lodges have been given the use of a room in the basement, for which they have provided the furniture.

Shakopee. The total receipts from the calendar chain amounted to \$150. The library association has been greatly encouraged by a gift of \$50 from Mr. John W. Moyer, a pioneer citizen and some valuable books, including a set of Bulwer-Lytton from Mrs. H. B. Strait.

Spicer. The public library which has been closed for several years has been re-

moved to the waiting room of Dr. Healy's office, and will be open every Saturday afternoon, in charge of Miss Jennie Knudson.

Spring Valley. The librarian, Miss Emma Hart, is carrying on a vigorous campaign for township extension, and is publishing a series of articles in the papers setting forth the needs of the library and the advantages of the township extension plan.

Two Harbors. Through the efforts of the librarian, a Woman's Civic League was organized in the early summer, whose first undertaking was a campaign against the fly.

Virginia. The corner stone of the new library building was laid July 30, by M. E. Fanning, president of the library board. Mr. Fanning made a short address thanking the city council for the liberal appropriation which had made the building possible without aid from Mr. Carnegie, and Mr. R. C. Pickering, secretary of the board, gave a history of the library and spoke of the plans for broader work in the future which the board hopes to accomplish.

The building is progressing rapidly, and will be completed about November 1st. At that time the school library will probably be combined with the public library with the exception of the reference books and a

trained children's librarian will be appointed to organize the enlarged children's department and carry on the work with schools.

Wadena. An entertainment was given for the benefit of the library in July. Some books on agriculture have been secured for the benefit of farmers in the vicinity, and arrangements will be made so that farmers desiring to consult the library can have access at any time.

Walker. The ladies of Walker have organized a Carnegie Library Club and have raised money to buy chairs and electric light fixtures for the library. The building will now be open three evenings each week as a reading room. The council has graded the lot, laid cement walks and set out trees, so that the appearance of the building is greatly improved.

Wayzata. The library has extended its limits through the county extension plan and is now loaning books to the following towns and villages: Holdridge, Groveland, Orono, Spring Park, Long Lake, Maple Plain, Parker's Lake and Hamel.

Willmar. The Monday Afternoon Club has presented to the library a bas-relief of Guido Reni's Aurora.